

THE

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OR, THE

Literary and Historical R E G I S T E R.

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On GOOD SENSE.



N a former Paper on this Subject, Good Sense was defin'd, a just Valuation of common Objects, and a jound Way of reasoning on common Appearance. The Word Commo: was there understood of such Objects and Appearances as belong to the human species in general. But though this Definition is perhaps the only one by which Good

Sense can be truly and universally diffinguished, yet in the Commerce of the World, we find each Man laying down a Definition to himself, applying his particular Pursuits, and those Objects with which he himself is chiefly conversant, to the whole human Species, and denying the common Sense of any one, who does not value and reason.

If f

upon Things through the same Medium of Custom and Prejudice with himself. Menalcas is a Country Gentleman of moderate Fortune, with a very confiderable Share of Knowledge, chiefly of the Hiftorical or Moral Kind. His Understanding has a very fober, masculine Turn; so that he values his Command of the learned Languages, only as the Means of being acquainted with the Sentiments and Views of the great Men of Antiquity; and as he is remarkably Mafter of thefe, and very agreeable in Conversation by the folid Use he makes of them, his Acquaintances are extremely desirous of his Company, especially as he comes but seldom to Town. Will Bookwit had often heard his Learning commended, and at last got into his Company with mighty Expectations. In their Conversation, a Passage of Cicero happened to be referred to, on which Will immediately asked Menalcas, what he thought of Muretus's Emendation of that Place? Menalcas paus'd a little ; But, Sir, fays Will, perhaps you rather approve the Construction and Interpretation of Paulus Manutius ; and immediately ran out into a long Lift of Commentators. and Editions, and crabbed Names which I have quite forgot. Menalcas made Answer in few Words, that he was entirely unacquainted with these learned Gentlemen, and never confulted any of them, unless when he was at a Loss to understand his Author; and there, fays he, I have very feldom found them of much Significancy. Immediately Will's Countenance fell, he fat almost without speaking the rest of the Time; and at going down Stairs, whisper'd me, that he was never fo disappointed in his Life; for that the Man I had commended fo much, had neither Learning nor common Senfe.

We ought to confider that the Mind's Acquisition of it's Ideas, is in a great measure involuntary; Men have not this fort of Furniture at their own Discretion, and consequently are not to be censured for the Want of it. It is no Mark of a weak Understanding, not to be so well acquainted with Editions and various Readings as Will Bookwis is; unless that Understanding had as little other Business, and were as entirely precluded from other kinds of Knowledge, as Will's is. I will venture to fay, a Man may possess as clear, and as strong an Understanding as the best Philosopher in Europe, without knowing more of the Laws of Nature than. is necessary to the Conduct of a Plough and Harrow. If such a Man should think too slightly of Philosophical Studies, his Fortune and Circumstances, not his Good Sense, are to blame. The Course of Things in this World never suffered him to have an Idea of the Physical Rela ion between Grawity and Velocity; nor consequently to set the just Value upon the Study of Mechanicks, though without it the Wheels of his Team could not have been constructed; for how can we justly value an Object of which we had never any Conception or Idea? The Good Sense of such a Man can only appear in his Estimate of those Things, with which he is acquainted, and in his Reasoning on such Appearances as usually occur to him; in considering how long he had best wait to sell his Corn, when the Market is rising; or in keeping his Boys at Work, rather than let them run with the Hounds and the young 'Squire. And if in these Particulars, he have the just Valuation and the sound Way of Reasoning, his Good Sense is as unquestionable as it could be,

He knew by Name, and all th' ethereal Pow'rs,
All Secrets of the Deep, all Nature's Works.

Men are placed by Fortune in different Scenes of Life; according to the Difference of their Scene, their Minds are supplied with a particular Stock of Ideas. With the Objects of these particular Ideas, they are best acquainted; they are therefore most likely to value them justly; and they are also most likely to reason upon what concerns them with Solidity and Clearness. For it is a remarkable Infirmity of the human Mind, that though its general Way of reasoning be ever fo dexterous, yet when its Attention is required to Things out of the Way or odd (that is to fay, to Things with which it is not familiar) it proceeds but with flow and indistinct Steps; it is indeed unwilling to proceed, being conscious of its own Unfitness for the Task. Now the Mind has it not in its own Option to chuse what Objects it will to be familiar with; that depends upon the Scene of Fortune in which it is placed. It therefore implies no real Infirmity in the Mind, if in some Things it have not the just Valuation or the found Way of Reasoning; fince these are only to be expected where the Object is familiar; and that Circumstance is frequently beyond the Mind's Power. all external Things are beyond its Power. Good Sense therefore is not constantly or universally concerned with external Things, but with internal; for these are within the Power of every Mind.

By internal Things, I mean the Faculties and Affections of the Soul. We are here furrounded with Objects capable of F f f 2 giving

giving us Pleasure and Pain: some of these act upon our Bodies, and others upon our Minds. The Disposition of the Mind to receive Pleasure or Pain from certain proper Objects, is called natural Affection. Upon the right Œconomy and Enjoyment of natural Affection depends the specifick Happiness of a human Creature; consequently the Objects of that Enjoyment are in the first Place valuable. If the Understanding make a wrong Estimate here, it undoubtedly goes contrary to Good Sense, without Excuse or Palliation; because the Object to be valued was of the internal Kind, of that Kind which does not depend upon accidental Circumstances. Such a wrong Estimate can at first proceed only from want of natural Affection; from an Infentibility of the Mind as to that Object; for where the Mind is infenfible of Pleafure, it can have no proper Value for the Object of such Pleasure. If there be a Creature, who in cool Blood accounts the Poffession of meer Dominion or Riches more valuable than his Enjoyments as a Father or a Husband, it is certain that he never felt the Pleasures of a Father or a Husband; in other Words, that he is insensible and destitute of natural Affection; and it is no less certain, that so far he is void of Common Sense. Which leads me to a Conclusion, that I dare fay will be pleasing to every good-natured Reader. It is, that Good Sense necessarily implies a good Heart: For what do we mean by a good Heart, but one capable of being touched with all the Tenderness of natural Affection? without which Capability (to use Shakespear's Word) there cannot be a just Valuation of the most important Objects in the World. nor confequently any thing that deferves the Name of Good Senfe.

Perhaps the Reader remembers, that in my former Paper I afferted that Good Sense does not imply Virtue; and may therefore wonder to hear me now affert, that it implies a good Heart; but there is no Contradiction. Virtue confifts in Action and direct Conduct; a good Heart implies only such a Sensibility to good Affections, as may enable the Understanding to form a right Idea concerning the Value of their respective Objects. Now the Understanding may be furnished with that Idea most accurately true, and yet the Assions and Conduct of the Man may grievously contradict it; his Valuation of the Object may be just, but his Conduct with respect to it may be entirely vicious: For it was an old Complaint,

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And we fee by daily Experience, that the Mind can form the most exalted Conceptions of Virtue, public and private, and yet deceive itself into such a Course of acting, as if it

had no Conception of Virtue at all.

And thus it appears concerning the former part of our Definition, or concerning the just Valuation of Objects, that Good Sense does not necessarily imply such a proper Estimate of External Things; that it is not to be reckon'd more or less perfect, merely from the Scene of Life with which it is concerned; and lastly, that it necessarily implies a Sensibility of the Heart to all the Pleasures of natural Affection.

As to the other Part of our Definition, or that found Way of Reasoning upon Things, which belongs to Good Sense, we find miferable Mistakes about it in the World: How many little and worthless Habits of the Understanding do we daily fee put inflead of it, and allowed to pass current with the Stamp of Good Sense? Such is the Knack of trifling and minute Distinctions, without any real or material Difference: Such is the Power of adapting one's felf upon Occasion, in a plaufible Manner, to different Ways of speaking and acting; the Custom of accounting for great and striking Actions from vulgar and contemptible Motives; of acting with great Reserve and Precaution, in Matters of little or no Consequence; or of calculating certain Proceedings in the World of Bufiness, so as to make them fall in most advantageously with this or that particular Temper, Situation, or Intereft. All which Power we have feen possessed and exercised without any thing like real Good Sense, and yet each of them frequently dignified with the Name. As to the found Way of Reasoning, which really makes a Part of Good Sense, it can hardly be described but by particular Instances, of which there is no End. Thus much may be faid in general, that here, as almost every where else, the best Things are easiest to be obtained, and the foundest Inferences usually the most obvious. Too much Subtility and Refinement is as frequent an Enemy of Good Sense, as either Negligence of Head, or Simplicity of Heart. Accordingly, nothing is more common in History, than to meet with Instances of great Generals that have been ruined by this Excess of Policy, wherever their Adversaries have known how to provide for and feed it, as we fee particularly in the Story of Alexander's Successors. and in the two great Republican Contests of the ancient World, the Peloponnesian War, and the Quarrel between Rome and Carthage.

On the Predominant Passion in Women.

— — Varium & mutabile semper
Fæmina. — — — VIR. Æn. IV.
Fæmineo spoliorum ardebat amore. Æn. XI.

A S I'm one of those useless Insects call'd a Gentleman. A and tho' posses'd of an active Mind, have no Vocation to exercise it upon; that I may in some Measure be assistant to Society, and at the fame Time prevent myfelf from falling into those Inconveniencies that People of my Disposition are frequently led into by Indolence; I employ my Talents, which are pretty much calculated for Speculation, in observing the various Motions of the Human Soul; and I'm feldom fatisfied if I fee any extraordinary Effect proceed from it's Workings, till I have trac'd the Reason of it thro' it's numerous Labyrinths to the Source of Action. In order to become as far Mafter of this Knowledge as is possible. I not only read all the moral Philosophers both ancient and modern, but mix with all Ranks and Conditions of Men; and by Habit have gain'd fuch a convenient Flexibility, that in the fame Hour I can frown with the Morofe, and smile with the Easy-temper'd; I can be gay with the Young, and ferious with the Old; and Cameleon like, can affume any Colour but that of Injustice, Falsehood, or active Immorality. I am become so far an Adept in this Science already, that I am feldom at a Loss to affign the Cause of most Events among my own Sex, but must ingenuously confess that I'm frequently confounded in my Enquiries concerning the Other. Whether this Difficulty arises from the fuperior Art that Women have to conceal their Defigns, or whether they often do Things without any Defign at all, I can't as yet determine; but 'tis certain the Instability of that Sex has been fo unaccountable in all Ages, that the ancient Egyptians, the Inventors of Hieroglyphicks, emblematiz'd their Disposition by a Weather-cock; intimating, I suppose, that they were not actuated by Reason so much as the casual Turn of Elementary Causes. However, this Inconvenience is in some Measure alleviated, as one Passion feems to be predominant in their Constitution over the rest, and where that fixes, my Philosophy has a Guide and becomes of Use. The Reader will immediately guess I mean the Love of Conquest by their Beauty; and whoever has made any Observations among the Ladies will agree with me, that the Admiration of

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of their Persons is the surest Key except one, to their Bosoms; and those who profess to wear their Chains the most, easily become, instead of Slaves, absolute Masters. There are many other Things, no doubt, that Female Ambition aims at, but this is the principal End of their Endeavours. Anacreon very justly calls Beauty the Armour of the Fair; and our Countryman Milton, who by woeful Experience was thoroughly vers'd in their Sentiments, makes the Serpent, e'er he tempts Eve to sin, prepare her Heart for it in the following Manner.

- " Fairest Resemblance of thy Maker fair!
- " Thee all Things living gaze on and adore,
- With Ravishment beheld! there best beheld
- "Where univerfally admir'd: but here
- " In this Inclosure wild, these Beasts among,
- 66 (Beholders rude, and shallow to discern
- " Half what in thee is fair) one Man except,
- "Who fees thee? and what is one, who should'ft be feen
- " A Goddess among Gods, ador'd and ferv'd
- " By Angels numberless thy daily Train.
- " So gloz'd the Tempter, and his Proem tun'd:
- " Into the Heart of EVE his Words made Way."

PAR. LOST. B. IX.

I never met a Woman in my Life so old or deform'd, that had not a Relish for this kind of Flattery; and I appeal to the Hearts of my fair Readers, let their public Declarations be what they will, if they have not more Joy in being admir'd for the Lustre of an Eye, than for the brillant Turn of a fenfible Thought. I have been very much furpriz'd for this Reason, how the Madrigal-Writers can be so dull to compliment CLOE, STELLA, or SYLVIA on the Excellence of their Understanding, without taking a Word of Notice of the Ivory Neck, Lips that exceed the Roje, and Breafts the Lilly, &c. &c. nay frequently to decry those external Features, making 'em a Foil to the Beauty of the Mind. Well, what's the Consequence of this? the Nymph receives the Sonnet, frowns on her Philosophical STREPHON, and tells him, fhe is forry the Acuteness of his Wit has taken away the Use of his Eyes. - This unconquerable, almost innate Defire

of being admir'd, is so universal, that frequently even Women very near as chaste and cold as the feign'd Followers of Diana, have been imperceptibly led into the Snares of Love, by endeavouring to extend their Sway over those who have seemingly been above their Power; and the Jealousy of another's making the Conquest, has effected what the warmest Sollicitation had sued for in vain: so strong is the Love of

Idalian Empire!

I have almost copied the following Story, concerning a remakable Inftance of this Kind, from the Ingenious Monfieur Bruyere. There liv'd at Avignon a beautiful young Lady nam'd CASTALIA, who was lefs known for her Beauty than the Severity of her Manners; and above all for the cold Indifference the shew'd to Men, with whom she boasted to converse without any Danger of Love, and without feeling any other Emotions from their Conversation, than those she daily had among her Female Acquaintance and her Brothers. She never would believe any Stories they related of the Force of Love in all Ages, for Friendship was the only Passion she was acquainted with. A young and agreeable Companion, whom the had been brought up with from her Infancy, was the only Object of her Thoughts; and all her Study was to make their reciprocal Amity lafting. She was always talking of CA-LISTA, for that was the Name of her faithful Friend; whilft most of her own Sex, and all the other were entirely difregarded. However she still continued to be the Admiration of the Men, and the more Offers she rejected, the more her Suitors encreas'd. An old Count in the Neighbourhood, of a rich and noble Family, perfifted the longest in his Addresses; but at length tir'd with the fruitless Pursuit, and reflecting on his own Age and that of CASTALIA's, Reason prevail'd over his Passion, and he declar'd he would trouble her no more on the Subject of Love, provided he might freely vifit her as he did before the Declaration of it. One Day when the Count came to make his usual Visit, he brought with him his Son HILARIO, a young Man of an agreeable Person, an engaging Address, and a lively Wit. CASTALIA, after the first introductory Salutations, beheld him with a particular Regard; but as he was filent in the Presence of his Father, the imagin'd he was deficient in Understanding; and so that the was void of all Apprehension of falling a Victim to this new Lover, as the imagin'd he would be. As foon as the old Man was gone, HILARIO gave her by his Discourse a more advantageous Idea of his Wit; but as he did not admire her as others had done, and spoke nothing of her Beau-

ty,

ty, the began to be furpriz'd and angry that fo accomplish'd a Youth, who feem'd to have the finest Taste for all other Things, should be so blind to her Persections. When the first Interview was over, she immediately went to her Friend, and communicated this new Uneafiness. CALISTA was feiz'd with a Desire of seeing this indifferent Stranger. Accordingly some few Days after they all three met by Appointment. HILARIO, after they had taken two or three Turns in the publick Walks, began to compliment, and fay a Hundred little amorous Things to CALISTA; this was the first Time CASTALIA had not been idoliz'd above all her Sex; her Rage and Pride grew fo great at this Lofs of Empire, that for fear of being discovered she pretended sudden Illness and left the Company. From hence she began to look cool upon her Friend, but appointed a second Meeting in order to clear up her Doubts. The fecond Appointment shew'd her what she fear'd to fee, and turn'd her too wellgrounded Suspicion into Certainty. Stung with Jealousy she leaves Calista, loses the Taste for her Conversation, and totally forgets the Merit that had formerly charm'd her; which Change was too convincing a Proof that Love had fupplanted Friendship in her Heart. In the mean time HI-LARIO and CALISTA were married, the News was spread thro' the whole City, and every one congratulated 'em. CASTALIA hears of the Marriage, feels her Love and Despair rekindled, and seeks again the Acquaintance of CALISTA, only for the Pleasure of seeing HILARIO; but Matrimony had no Effect upon the young Bridegroom, he still was the Lover tho' a Hutband, still view'd the Mistress in the Wife, and never shew'd any more Esteem for CASTALIA, than for the Friend of a Person who was most dear to him. This unfortunate Maid became at length thro' Excess of Passion, distracted. She would mistake her own Brothers for HILA-RIO, and speak to 'em in the Language of Love; then find out the Mistake, and blush at the Disappointment. She would rave whole Days and Nights without resting, and the few Intervals of Reason only serv'd to weep the Recovery of it.

PHILARETES,

A

SCHEME

For regulating

HUMAN CONDUCT:

Or Directions for attaining to the Knowledge of Ourselves, and the World.

THE great Lesson in Life, is to know ourselves and the World; and any effectual Helps towards attaining this Knowledge, cannot but be acceptable to all Ranks of Mankind. How far the subsequent Scheme may be instrumental to such a Design, is less to the Experience of others; I can

A SCHEME for regulating HUMAN CONDUCT.

GOOD CHARACTERS.

Frugality. This Virtue prevents us from running into any superfluous or unnecessary Expence in our Food, Cloathing, Furniture, or Diversions. Sir J. A. is an Example of it, which I have often wish'd to imitate. His Table is furnished plentifully enough; but he can flay till the proper Season for all Things; and whatfoever is extravagantly dear, has there no Place. His Cloaths, his Equipage, his Furniture are elegant, but plain; and his Pleasures and Diversions are fuch as a Man may par-

take of, and enjoy, without regretting the Expence.

BAD ONES.

Y

Extravagance. What can excuse the extravagant Profufion of my Lord - in extracting the Effence of Hams, Partridges, &c. merely to enrich a Spoonful of Sauce; rendering his Food pernicious and unwholfome, for the Sake of tickling a nice and vitiated Palate? Or his paying five Guineas for a Quart of unfeafonable Peafe, or a Dozen of immature and tafteless Cherries, at the same time that his Butcher and Fishmonger have each an unpaid Bill of five hundred Pounds upon him?

A

SCHEME

For regulating

HUMAN CONDUCT, &c.

only affert that it has been so (in no small Degree) to one. A Man must be willing to know himself, before he can know himself; and a Knowledge of the World is not to be obtained without diligent Observation, and much Experience.

Towards attaining the first of these Points, the Knowledge of one's self, I would propose that every Man should draw up something like the following Scheme; and exemply it from himself, and his own Acquaintances; by frequent Comparison with whom, he might perceive his Progress in, or Deviation from the Paths of Virtue.

A SCHEME for regulating HUMAN CONDUCT.

My OWN VIRTUES.

Thank God, I cannot ac-cuse myself of such an infamous, fcandalous, noble Appetite: And I hope I shall always think it a Shame, that my Butcher, or Fishmonger; should be reduc'd to the Necessity of subsisting on Neck-Beef, or Sprats, whilft I am luxuriously feeding at their Expence, and devouring that Substance which they have earned with the Sweat of their Brows, and which is perhaps their chief Dependence for the Support of themselves and their Families.

My Own FAULTS.

But how many other Extravagances have I been guilty of? How many Parties of foolish and expensive Pleasure have I been drawn into? how constantly have I repented them the Instant they were over, yet how frequently committed them again and again? Had I but one half of the Money I have thus idly fpent, what infinite Service might it be of to myfelf or my Friends at this very Inflant? (Economy is the Parent of Peace, Plenty, and Independency; Profusion as naturally begets Difcontent, Necessity, and Servility.

A SCHEME for regulating HUMAN CONDUCT.

GOOD CHARACTERS.

Temperance. Who can forbear to admir the Conduct and Prudence of my Lord S. who with a delicate Conflitution, and in the midft of Plenty to indulge and ruin it, has by mere Abstemiousness preserved his Health to a good old Age?

Sincerity. Is one of those Virtues, which there is no Necessity of exerting upon all Occasions. My Friend R—piques himself upon always speaking his Mind. 'Tis true, he must be allowed to be fincere, but he is often rude. S— is equally fincere, but shows it only when his Advice or Opinion is ask'd, or when it can do good.

Calmnefs. I cannot forbear to admire the Conduct of Mr. L—, who, though ty'd to the most filly, impertinent, and provoking Wife, never fuffers himself to be russled, or disconcerted by her Folly, but reproves her with Calmness and Moderation, when he can do it decently; and when he cannot, seems either not to hear, or not to understand her. By this Means, he neither exposes her nor himself.

BAD ONES.

Intemperance. What a fad Sacrifice to this Vice was Jack
—! his Conflitution which was strong, his Fortune which was large, his Life which might have been valuable, were all destroyed by it.

Hypecrify. Is one of those Vices which it is sometimes excusable to be guilty of. As it is good Manners in some Cafes to dissemble our Knowledge of other People's Faults, so it is perhaps good Policy now and then to conceal our own: But to wear a constant Habit of Hypocrify and Dissimulation, like old Sir Thrifty Gripe, is odious and detestable.

Impatience. Old Epicure Morose is just in the same Situation: His Wife is a weak prating Woman, perpetually afking idle Questions, or embarraffing Conversation with fome foolish Speech or ridicu. lous Opinion; this alone is to his Friends disagreeable enough, but he contrives to make it ten times more fo by his peevish, fretful, and passionate Behaviour to her on these Occasions; frequently throwing the whole Company into fuch a Situation, that they know not how to behave betwixt them.

A SCHEME for regulating HUMAN CONDUCT.

My OWN VIRTUES.

My OWN FAULTS.

I have not much to fay for myself here, but that I am obliged to my Constitution, which will neither let me eat nor drink to Excess. But it is some Merit not to force Nature against her Will.

The Arrack Punch and Gellies, which gave me a Fever feven Years ago, may perhaps have contributed to make me a foberer Man all my Life.

I remember I disobliged and entirely lost the Friendship of G—, by telling him with great Sincerity, that I thought his Conduct blameable in regard to some certain Points; but I afterwards heard he reflected seriously on what I had said, and was a better Man for it ever after. I lament not so much for the Loss of my Friend, as I rejoice in the Good I did him.

Scarce a Day paffes in which I do not find myfelf in fuch a Situation, as obliges me either to be guilty of Ill-manners or Infincerity. And I'm afraid I commonly chuse to commit the greater Crime, in order to avoid the lefs.—I was not fincere with Mr. H—, and if he had not had Penetration enough to suspect me, he would have suffered by it.

I am afraid in general I am apt to fall into this ault myfelf, but I labour against it, and can recollect many Instances in which I have succeeded; particularly when my Servant spilt the Ink upon a fine Drawing, which was fent me as a Curiosity.

But I too often find myfelf unable to guard against it; the Consequence of which is, that I commit more gross and unpardonable Faults in my Passion, than those I am angry for; and say such absurd and monstrous Things, as when the Heat is over, I am quite ashamed of.

A SCHEME for regulating HUMAN CONDUCT

GOOD CHARACTERS.

Modesty. How many Virtues, how many Accomplishments has my Lord L-? Yet how modest, how unasfuming is his Behaviour! His Tafte is perfect, his Knowledge is extensive; yet on any Subject, how much more ready is he to hear than to fpeak? But whenever he delivers his Opinion, from a certain Consciousness of his own Good Senfe, a becoming Affurance accompanies his Words.

6.

Benevolence. Of all the Virtues this is the greatest, and best becomes the greatest Persons. How amiably confpicuous in this Light is the Duke of M-? How many Instances does one know of his Benevolence and Good Will to Mankind? The Earl of C-is more from hence the Delight of Mankind, than from his great Parts and unequal'd Wit. The higher the Character, the more Necessity there is for this Virtue. An unbenevolent King would be a Monster.

BAD ONES,

Fack Townley has Vanity. neither Learning, Parts, nor Virtue; but from the fole Merit of a fine Coat, and a large Estate, fancies he is a confiderable Man. and his own Affairs, are the general Subjects of his Converfation; and in all Disputes his Decisions are positive On a Poem, or licture, an elegant House or Garden, he will pronounce with great Authority; but even the Trimming of his Waistcoat will tell you, how very unfit he is to pass Judgment, where Tafte or Propriety is at all concerned.

Ill-Nature. This Vice can only belong to the lowest and basest Minds. To be envious, malicious, and generally malevolent, can only flow from a Consciousness of Villainy and Baseness within. Such a Wretch. as he finds he cannot love himfelf, endeavours to hate all Mankind. But to prevent his doing fo much Mischief as he otherwise might, his Malignity is generally flampt upon his Countenance, and all Mankind avoid him. very remarkable in B-.

A SCHEME for regulating HUMAN CONDUCT.

My OWN VIRTUES.

My OWN FAULTS.

The only Hope I have, that I am not vain, is, that I do not often catch myfelf talking on my own Affairs; and I fometimes find that I can prefer another Perfon's Judgment or Opinion to my own, and yield myfelf in the Wrong.

Yet I am afraid I feel more Pleafure than I ought, when I hear my House, my Garden, my Pictures approv'd of and commended. And perhaps it would mortify me more than it should, were I to hear my own Taste and Judgment called in Question, and cenfur'd.

6.

I think I feel in myfelf many Tokens of Benevolence. I generally believe well of Mankind, and put the best Interpretation I can even upon their ill Actions. I can rejoice at the Success of any useful Design, though I am not concerned in it, and grieve when any pernicious Scheme takes Place, though I am not affected by it. I hate none but fuch as are Enemies to the Liberties and Happiness of Mankind, and I please myself with thinking that this particular Hatred proceeds from general Love.

6

I do not believe that I can feel a greater Pleasure than I do at this Instant, in reflecting that I have nothing to set down against myself under this Article.

This Lift might be carry'd on through many other Virtues and Vices; and whoever shall draw p such a one for his own use, will do well to exemplify it with such as he finds most to abound either in himself, or among his Acquaint

ance. And I dare answer for it, if it is done with Impartiality, he will find it of great Use, not only towards attaining a true Knowledge of himself, but also towards correcting and improving his own Conduct.

As to the Knowledge of the World, I think there are very few Precautions laid down by Authors either ancient or modern, to prevent the unthinking part of Mankind from being imposed on; I am therefore the more readily inclined to submit these cursory Hints to the Resection of those, who really need some Instruction in the mysterious Ways of the World. Have sull Experience of a Man, and examine him well before you admit him into your Councils: and consider Mankind, in order to attain a thorough Acquaintance with their Dispositions, in these three Lights.

I. By the Impression Nature has stampt on their Countenances, viz.

GRAVITY, though the genuine Character of a wife and virtuous Man, fometimes conceals Pride, Ill-Nature, and Cunning, rather demanding Awe than Confidence; exemplify'd in Mr.

SNEERING SMILING COUNTENANCE, which paffes for good Nature, and generally conceals Malice, Fraud, and a bad Heart, exemplify'd in Mr. ———

The FIERCE ASPECT, which passes for Courage, genenerally denotes a Bully—This is very remarkable in Mr.—

II. By observing their Behaviour to us. Never take their Words against their Actions; by their Fruits you shall know them.

Remember, constantly remember not to take the Colour of 2 Man's Actions, but from their own visible Tendency, and never from his publick Character alone; for publick Estimation is more often acquired by Deceit, Partiality, Prejudice, and such like, than by real Desert.

The FLATTERER. He praises you for his own Ends, and perhaps inwardly despites you; but will dread you if he perceives you see his Drift.

The Professor of Friendship. N. B. A vicious Man is incapable of Friendship, and will certainly deceive you when his Interest requires it.

An INQUISITIVE MAN. Who ought to be treated very bluntly.

A SLANDERER. Whose distemper'd Mind is the very Bane of Society, spreading itself like a Contagion, and is one of the Products of Pride and Self-Conceit.

Beware

Literary and Historical REGISTER. 417 Beware of A SANCTIFY'D HYPOCRITE. Ex. Gr. Mr. -

III. By observing Mens Actions towards others. As for Inflance, if they behave well towards their Parents, Brothers, Wives, &c. 'tis very probable they are good Men. If ill to their nearest Relations, they are very improper for our Confidence or Friendship. Be always guarded against such Men; but above all, trust not to the Repentance of a once known Villain.

Here follow some Particular Rules, with Practical INFERENCES from them.

RULE I.

For your own Safety, it may be prudent to confider every Man (but your try'd Friends) as a fanus, and to treat the World in general, as (what they are by Experience found to be) defigning and treacherous. - Don't eafily trust any one, yet be always complaifant and benevolent, for that is your Duty.-Be wife as Serpents, but harmless as Doves.—Put little Queries to yourfelf, what Meaning may possibly be couched under such, or such Behaviour, and what Interest the Person might have in saying such, or such Things.

INFERENCE I.

Do you so soon forget how you was deceived by Mr. ? This Caution would have prevented his Imposition.

RULE II.

Never talk about another's Character or your own Affairs. unless an absolute Necessity requires it, and then with the utmost Tenderness of one, and Caution of the other ;-and whenever you are in a talking Humour, confider the Philofopher's Check :- Lingue, quo vadis? But above all remember, that * Too much Familiarity breeds Contempt.

INF. II.

Remember the Quarrel you was engaged in by inadvertently speaking of Mr. ---, and what a long Train of Vexation enfued before that Breach was thoroughly healed *This is fully exemplify'd by your Conduct towards Mr. -, who always accosted you with an indecent Familiarity, because he was not kept at a proper Distance first of all. RULE III.

Cultivate and affect Humility.-The tender Character is the most charming one a Man can have.-Never be guilty of a rude or haughty Exaression even to a Servant.

Hhh

INF.

INF. III.

How amiable does Mr - appear, who always observes this Rule!

RULE IV.

Avoid Oftentation and Shew, or at leaft use no more than is really necessary to support your Dignity in Life upon an Equality .- Simplex & unum. Don't affect the Appearance only of Grandeur or Happiness.

INF. IV.

How ridiculous is it to fee a Tradefman's Apprentice in a laced Waiftcoat !- Where are his Servants, his Horses, his Table, &c. suitable to that Appearance of Grandeur?

RULE V.

Nothing is more criminal than Extravagance.—Think well before you part with Money of the Difficulties in procuring it, and whether it might possibly be faved without manifest Discredit or Breach of Charity.

Were not fuch and fuch Sums of Money spent very idly?-Have not you often repented this? don't you even feel the Want of it now. Befides, you affumed an Authority by an imprudent Oftentation in Dress, Pleasures, &c. and distress'd your Neighbour into equal Imprudences, which many Men will be ever glad to find an Opportunity of refenting, though they cannot avoid imitating you, confequently they have a Right to be angry.

RULE VI.

Never fwear .- Mr. Boyle (that celebrated Philosopher) always made a full and reverential Pause, when he pronounced the Name of God .- Never talk obscenely, or give the least Countenance to any Party Feuds, or irreligious Conversation.

INF. VI.

Think what was told to your Disadvantage on this Head by Mr -, and how greatly it prejudiced you in the Opinion of feveral worthy Families. RULE VII.

A foft Answer turneth away Wrath, and Resentment often begets Slight .- Lay no Wagers .- Hold no Dispute perversely. -Make no Man your Enemy (if possible to be avoided) how inconsiderable soever he may be, since one Enemy may do you more Hurt, than three Friends can do you Good. INF. VII.

It is a certain Truth, that few People have it in their Power to do us any great Service, but the poorest Person on

Earth is capable in some Shape or another perhaps of doing us fome Injury. Besides, if you resent the Behaviour of an infolent Man, you only provoke him farther; he will ca-lumniate you, and despife your Anger; therefore the only Method of dealing with such People, is to avoid them as much as possible, and be very calm though steady in what you fay to them.

RULE VIII.

Accustom yourself to a perfect Resignation in every thing. -Never murmur at Envy or Scandal, for you know it raged even against your Friend the great Mr. ---. Reflect how nobly the Lofs of his Eyes was supported by that sensible and worthy Gentleman Mr. --- But above all, remember that divers of your Acquaintance even in the Bloom of Youth, are long fince departed; and keep a Lift of them all to refresh your Memory.

INF. VIII.

Afflictions are like the Test to Gold, they prove and discover the Truth and Excellency of our Virtues.-It behoves us therefore to be always prepared to bear every Event patiently and manfully; not only for our own Sakes (fince we cannot help ourfelves by repining) but as a laudable Example to others, and as our Duty to an indulgent God, who has fuffered us to be thus afflicted to answer some valuable Purposes, and who will reward us (if we deferve it) in his own good time. Let not the Thoughts of Death startle us .- Let us gradually wean our Affections from the World, and be thankful that we have fo long enjoyed it.

RULE IX.

The best Scheme of Life, and the best Policy is, in short, to be diffident of all Men, yet to act the good and honourable part by all; for to be felf-absolved is a Pleasure of that Kind which the united Force of the World cannot remove.

INF. IX.

Remember the golden Rule; to do by every Man, as you wou'd be done by. - Let us follow Reason, and let the publick Approbation follow us the same way, if it pleases. "Popular Applause (says Montaigne) is generally of no solid Use to us, it adds nothing to our Souls or Bodies, nor lessens any of our Miseries.

RULE X.

To conclude.—Have a Confidence in Providence, which most affuredly interposes in our Affairs; (I believe always for the best) so that whenever a Design is formed, we must still consider this Interposition as something to be either added, Hhh 2

420 The MUSEUM: Or the or substracted, of which we know not the Value or Power.

INF. X.

This Confideration will check our Prefumption and PRIDE (the very Center of innumerable Vices,) and oblige us to reflect that the great God of Heaven and Earth looks down on all our Transactions, and is ever prefent to Support those who love and fear him, whatever Hardships they may endure; how much soever to their Disadvantage, Misrepresentations may prevail against them.

On SCRIBLING against GENIUS.

An HORATIAN EPISTLE.

Dear SIR,

N O fingle Rule's more frequently enjoin'd,
Than this, "Observe the Byass of your Mind."
However just by ev'ry one confess'd,
There's not a Rule more frequently transgress'd.
For Mortals, to their Int'rest blind, pursue
The Thing they like, not that they're fit to do.

This Verro's Fault: by frequent Praifes fir'd,
He feveral Parts had try'd, in each admir'd.
That Verro was not ev'ry Way compleat,
'Twas long unknown, and might have been fo yet:
But Musick-mad, th' unhappy Man pursu'd
That only Thing Heav'n meant he never shou'd;
And thus, his proper Road to Fame neglected,
He's ridicul'd for that he but affected.

Wou'd Men but act from Nature's fecret Call, Or only, where that fails, not act at all; If not their Skill, they'd fhew at leaft good Senfe,— They'd get no Fame—nor wou'd they give Offence.

Not that where some one Merit is deny'd, Men must be ev'ry Way unqualify'd.

Nor

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Nor hold we, like that wrong-concluding Weight,
A Man can't fish — because he cou'd not write.
View all the World around: each Man design'd
And surnish'd for some fav'rite Part you find.
That, sometimes low; yet this, so small a Gist,
Proves Nature did not turn him quite adrist.
The phlegmatick, dull, awkward, thick, gross-witted,
Have yet some clumsy Work for which they're sitted.
'Twas never known, in Men a perfect Void,
Ev'n I and T—ld might be well employ'd;
Wou'd we our Poverty of Parts survey
And sollow, as our Genius led the Way.

What then? obedient to that Turn of Mind Shou'd Men jog on to one dull Path confin'd; From that fmall Circle never dare depart, To ftrike at large, and fnatch a Grace from Art? At least with Care forbidden Paths pursue, Who quits the Road, shou'd keep it still in view. From Genius some sew Scapes may be allow'd, But ever keep within its Neighbourhood.

But C—r, faithless to his Byass see, With Giant-sin opposing Heav'n's Decree. Still fond where he shou'd not, he blunders on With all that Haste Fools make to be undone. Want of Success his Passion but augments, Like Eunuchs Rage of Love, from Impotence.

'Mongst all the Instances of Genius crost,
The Rhyming Tribe are who offend the most.
Each piddling Wretch who hath but common Sense,
Or thinks he hath, to Verse shall make Pretence.
Why not? 'tis their Diversion, and 'twere hard
If Men of their Estates shou'd be debarr'd.
Thus Wealth with them gives every thing beside;
As People worth so much are qualify'd;

They've

They've all the Requisites for writing fit,
All but that one—fome little Share of Wit.
Give way, ye Friends, nor with fond Pray'rs proceed
To stop the Progress of a Pen full speed.
'Tis Heav'n, incens'd by some prodigious Crime,
Thus for Men's Sins determines them to Rhyme.
Bad Men, no doubt! perhaps 'tis Vengeance due
For Shrines they've plunder'd, or some Wretch they slew.
Whate'er it be, sure grievous is th' Offence,
And grievous is (Heav'n knows!) its Recompence.
At once in want of Rhyme and want of Rest,
Plagues to themselves, and to Mankind a Jest;
Seduc'd by th' empty Form of salse Delight—
Such in some Men their deadly Lust to write!
Ev'n I, whose Genius seems as much forgot,

Ev'n I, whose Genius seems as much forgot, Mine when I write, as yours when you do not; Who gravely this Abuse in Men condemn, My self allowing, what I blame in them; With no Pretence to Phæbus's Aid divine, Nor the least Int'rest in the tuneful Nine, With all the Guilt of Impotence in view, Griev'd for past Sins, but yet committing new; Whate'er the Wits may say, or Wise may think, I'm fooling ev'ry Day with Pen and Ink. When all who'd have me well, begin t'advise,

6 That being witty, is not being wife;

· That if the Voice of Int'rest might be heard,

Incorriging deaf, I feign a Yawn,

And mock their just Conclusions, e'er they're drawn.

If to my Practice, they oppos'd my Theme, Said bluntly, I but swim against the Stream: With all the Rancour of a Bard in Rage, I'd quote 'em half the Writers of the Age; Literary and Historical REGISTER. 423
Who in a Wrath of Verse, with all their Might
Write on, howe'er unqualify'd to write.

MUTUAL BENEVOLENCE. A Tale.

Humbly Inscrib'd to her Royal Highness the Lady Augusta.

OWEET Offspring of the Royal Race. Adorn'd with every winning Grace; With ev'ry dawning Virtue crown'd; For Beauty, Sense, and Wit renown'd. If You amid the fplendid Throng, Can deign to hear my artless Song: My artless Song shall quickly prove That Nature's Law is mutual Love: That those in Gratitude who fail, Are worse than Beasts, as proves my Tale. Androcles from his Master fled, Tir'd with the fervile Life he led; And wand'ring o'er the Libyan Soil, Opprest with Hunger, Heat, and Toil; Efpy'd a Cave by Nature made, In which he fought the cooling Shade: But here not long he pensive fate, Lamenting his unhappy Fate; Before he rais'd his Eyes, and faw A Lion stretch his wounded Paw; Whose piercing Groans display'd his Grief, And ask'd, or seem'd to ask, Relief. Strait mov'd with Pity and Surprize, To give Relief Androcles tries. His Foot explor'd, a Thorn he found, Then gently drew it from the Wound. His trembling Fingers next effay To wipe the clotted Blood away;

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This done, the raging Torture ceast,
And Ease revives the joyful Beast.
Kind Nature heals the Wound again,
Again the Lion hunts the Plain;
And grateful to his Surgeon, bears
The Plunder of his Sylvan Wars.
Whate'er he catches in the Wood,
He kindly brings his Friend for Food.
Perhaps a Buck for Dinner came,
A Kid for Supper, or a Lamb.
And more surprizing to relate,
The Man and Beast together ate.

But who this favage Life could bear?

Tis true he liv'd, but liv'd in Fear.

He fancy'd there might come a Day,

When Lions could not find their Prey;

And then the dire voracious Beaft

Would on his mangled Carcass feast;

Which made him seek his native Home,

And once again revisit Rome.

The Dangers of the dreary Waste,
The Tracts of burning Sands he past,
The Muse had better leave unsung,
For these would make my Tale too long.
Behold him then at Rome once more,
In greater Perils than before:
Condemn'd by savage Beasts to die,
And meet the Fate he strove to sly.

And now he trembling walks the Stage,
To glut the hung'ry Lion's Rage;
The hungry Lion rushing came,
(By Chance or Destiny) the same
Androcles found on Libya's Plain,
And kindly eas'd his racking Pain.

Tremendous rear'd the grimly Beaft,
His Anger instant Death confest:
But when his glaring Optics knew
His Host, his Friend, Physician too;
Disarm'd of Rage, he fawning strove
To shew his Gratitude and Love.
He lick'd his Hand, his Neck embrac'd,
And murmur'd Thanks for Favours past.
Can savage Beasts be grateful then?
Read this and blush, ungrateful Men.

A SONG. Imitated from the Midsummer-Night's Dream of SHAKESPEARE. Act II. Scene V.

LO here, beneath this hallow'd Shade, Within a Cowflip's Bloffom deep, The lovely Queen of Elves is laid, May nought diffurb her balmy Sleep!

Approach the filent Manfion near, Or Newt profane the fweet Abode, Or Owl repeat her Orgies here!

No Snail or Worm shall hither come With noxious Filth her Bow'r to stain; Hence be the Beetle's sullen Hum, And Spider's disembowel'd Train.

The love-lorn Nightingale alone
Shall thro' Titania's Arbor stray,
To footh her Sleep with melting Moan,
And hall her with his sweetest Lay,

LITERARY MEMOIRS.

Critical Observations on SHAKESPEARE. By JOHN UPTON, Prebendary of Rochester. Octavo. 346 Pages.

THE learned Author of these Observations has divided his Work into three Books. In the First, he treats of Shakespear's Dramatic Character in general, according to the Philosophical and Critical Standards of Antiquity: in the Second, he gives Emendations of corrupted Passages in the Text of his Poet; and in the Last, he lays down several general Rules peculiar to the Grammatical Part of Shakespeare's Diction. As the Nature of the Work makes it consist principally of detach'd Reslexions, at least in the two latter Parts, we can only pretend to select a few of those

which feem most remarkable.

Our Author begins with recommending Modesty and Temperance in this Sort of Criticism, and with exposing the unwarrantable Boldness of latter Critics, particularly of Dr. Bently, than whom, he fays, no one did better when he met with a corrupt Place; but the Mifchief was, he would be meddling with found Places. From Critics, our Author proceeds to the modern bad Tafte of Readers and Spectators. and speaks with great Indignation of our servile Attachment to French Manners, and our affected Difgust at the Roughness, as we call it, or the masculine Dignity, as we should call it, of SHAKESPEARE and MILTON. This contemptible Delicacy was brought in by the Restoration; and has almost totally disfigur'd and spoil'd our Theatre, by that whining common-place Language of Love and Gallantry, unknown to SHAKESAEARE of the Ancients. And along with this Corruption of Tafte, our Political and Moral Character has fuffer'd in Proportion .- But omitting our Author's Reflections on these Subjects, we shall attend him more closely in his actual Survey of SHAKESPEARE's Dramatic Character. He begins with the Fable of his Pieces, " in which, fays he, is there not an Imitation of one Action, ferious, entire, and of a just Length, and which, without the Help of Narration, raifes Pity and Terror in the Beholder's Breaft, and refines the perturbed Passions?" This, it must be confess'd, the true Idea of Tragedy, "tho' there are many who, thering rever read one Word of Aristotle, gravely cite his

66 Rules,

"Rules, and talk of the Unities of Time and Place, at the very mentioning SHAKESPEARE's Name; tho' they don't "feem ever to have given themselves the Trouble of con-66 fidering, whether his Story does not hang together, and "the Incidents follow each other naturally; in thort, whether he has not a Beginning and an End." That this is true of SHAKESPEARE, appears from a particular Survey of three of his capital Plays, Macbeth, Hamlet, and Othello, in which our Au hor has illustrated his Singleness of Design, in raising a compleat Fable on one moral View, and his great Art and Dexterity in conducting it. " But however, it must be con-" fess'd, that if any of SHAKESPEARE's Plays be plainly or prov'd to have Variety of Fables and Actions, independent " each of the other, with no necessary or probable Connec-46 tion, then must these Plays be faulty." Tho' even in this Particular, our Poet has fuster'd by his Editors, as when they give us a Play of his with the Title of The Life and Death of King JOHN, which should be The Troubles and Death of King JOHN; and as when they talk of the first and second Parts of Henry IV, whereas the Plays that bear his Name are, each of them, a diffinet and entire Drama; " and to call -"them first and second Parts, is as injurious to the Author-" Character of SHAKESPEARE, as it would be to SOPHOCLES, to calls his two Plays on OEdipus, first and second Parts " of King CEDIPUS: whereas the one is OEdipus King of "Thebes, and the other OEdipus at Athens." As to the Unities of Time and Place, SHAKESPEARE feems to have thought himself not at all oblig'd to observe them; and our Author is not very angry at him for thinking fo; " for the Story (which is " the Part, and, as it were, the very Soul of Tragedy) being " made a whole, with natural Dependence and Connection; " the Spectator feldoms confiders the Length of Time neces-" fary to produce all these Incidents; — and for my own Part, " (fays he) I fee no great Harm likely to accrue to the Under-" tranding, in thus accompanying the Poet in his magical Ope-" rations, and in helping on an innocent Deceit; while he not only raifes or fooths the Passions, but transports me from ⁶⁶ Place to Place, just as it pleases him, and carries on the Thread of his Story." The Manners are next in Dramatic Poetry; and with respect to these, our Author requires four Things, I. That they be good, and that in a moral Sense, as far forth as the Character will allow; at least, that they partake of that mix'd Character of Virtue and Vice which belongs to almost all Men; and that the Poet never make his Persons act wickedly, without shewing some Temptations which led lii 2.

them aftray; in which Light, our Author condemns the Characters of Richard III, and Shylock, as not being Pictures of Human Creatures. 2. That the Manners be suitable, or that when the Poet has form'd his Character, as to the Circumftances of Age, Sex, and Condition, the Persons act up to it. 3. That they agree with History and common Belief. And 4. That they be uniform and confistent. In these three last Particulars, our Author greatly extols his Poet; fave that in the third Rule he has defignedly been faulty, in making Banquo a good Character; for that Banquo was as deep in: the King's Murder, as Macbeth himself: but then he was the Founder of the Stewart Family, and our Poet would not affront James I, by making his Ancestor so great a Villain. In this Place, we have the famous Question consider'd, How far it is necessary to be a good MAN, in order to be a good POET? Our Author is pleas'd to confirm the Observation by Johnson's Testimony of SHAKESPEARE, that he was indeed Honest, and of an open and free Nature. As to Sentiments, and their Suitableness to the Manners, no one will suspect that our Author could praise his Poet too much: We shall felect one remarkable Instance which he mentions. Mark Antony, as Plutarch informs us, affected the Afiatic Manner of speaking, which much resembled his own Temper. being ambitious, unequal, and very rodomontade. Style our Poet has very artfully and learnedly interspers'd in Antony's Speeches. He thus addresses Cleopatra:

- " Let Rome in Tyber melt, and the wide Arch
- 66 Of the rais'd Empire fall, here is my Space,
- " Kingdoms are Clay, &c."

And again,

- " The Shirt of Neffus is upon me; teach me,
- " Alcides, thou mine Ancestor, to rage, &c.

Our Author approves SHAKESPEARE'S Mixture of Comic Humour with the Seriousness and Passion of Tragedy, and defends him by the Examples of HOMER and MILTON; and for his Mastery in both Kinds, for that Conjunction of refin'd Ridicule and Humour with what is most grave in Morals and Philosophy; is of Opinion that there is not a Character known to equal him, that of SOCRATES perhaps only excepted.

The fecond Book confifts almost wholly of Emendations of SHAKESPEARE, and other Authors; and therefore admits

not of any Abridgment. We shall however select one or two of these Emendations, which may serve as a Speciment of our Author's Manner. He gives us his Corrections under certain general Heads or Classes, and alledges the Mistakes of the Editors and Transcribers from whence they forung. One of the Causes of Error is too much Refinement in the Editor ; as in the Comedy of Errors, Dromed is giving a Defcription of an ugly Woman, and fays he found the Emblems of different Countries in different Parts of her Body, as that he found France in her Forebead, arm'd and reverfed, making War against her Hair; where the Editors with a falle: Refinement have substituted Heir, and interpreted of the War of the League against Henry IV; whereas it is only a ludicrous Mention of the Difease which takes it Name from the French Nation; and which in a certain Stage of it, affects the Forehead and hairy Scalp. Another Caufe of Errors, is the Printer's not understanding the Poet's Expresfion ; as in Measure for Measure,

- " This fenfible warm Motion to become
- " A kneaded Clod, and the delighted Spirit
- " To bathe in fiery Floods, &c.
- "Where the unheeding Printer did not see the Improprietyses of a Spirit delighted in stery Floods, so gave a Word how was acquainted with, and omitted a most proper one which he less understood, delinquent." Another Cause has been a compendious Manner of writing, as in Othello.
 - of one whose Hand
 - Like the base Indian, threw a Pearl away
 - " Richer than all his Tribe."

Where Mr Pope reads Indian; but the true Reading is certainly Like th' base Egyptian, which was probably written compendiously, as Egpian, and so mistaken by the Printer or Player. The Passage alludes to a Story in Heliedorus, which our Author in another Place refers to, and which is most exactly parallel to Othello's Situation here. These may serve as a Specimen of our Author's Manner of correcting; and along with SHAKESPEAKE he has, with great Learning and Judgment, done the same good Office for a great many other Authors; for Homer, Aristophanes, Euripides, Menander, Plato, Xenophon, Juvenal,

JUVENAL, SPENSER, MILTON, the NEW TESTAMENT,

The third Book confifts of the Grammatical Rules which our Author has deduc'd, as observ'd by SHAKESPEARE, and peculiar to his Diction. These we shall just transcribe, without entering into their Application. " I. SHAKESPEARE alters proper Names according to Englife Pronunciation. « II. He makes Latin Words English, and uses them according to their original Idiom and Latitude. III. He fometimes omits the primary and proper Senfe, and uses Words ec in their fecondary and improper Signification. IV. He " uses one Part of Speech for another. V. He uses the active es Participle paffively. VI. He uses the Thing done, for the 44 Intention and Defire to do it. VII. He often adds to 46 Adjectives, in their Comparative and Superlative Degrees, 44 the Signs marking the Degrees. VIII. He frequently omits the auxiliary Verb, am, is, are, &c. and likewise seveer ral Particles to, that, a, as, &c. IX. He uses but, for or Otherwise than : Or, for before : Once, for Once for all, beremptorily: From, for on account of: Not, for not only. X. He uses the Abstract for the Concrete. XI. To compleat " his Conftruction, there is, in the latter Part of the Sentence, fometimes to be supplied some Word, or Phrase from the former Part, either express'd or tacitly fignified. XII. " He uses the Nominative Case absolute, or rather elliptical. 44 XIII. He makes a fudden Transition from the Plural Number to the Singular. XIV. He shortens Words by striking off the first or last Syllable: and fometimes lengthening " them by adding a Latin Termination."

HISTORICAL MEMOIRS.

The History, Political Constitution, and Interests of POLAND continued.

MIchael Wiesnowiski having thus had the Crown forced upon him by the plainer and honester part of the Assembly, was crowned on the seventeenth of September 1670: He had been, while a Youth, one of the Lords of the Bed-Chamber to the Emperor Leopold, who notwitstanding consented very readily to his Marriage with the Princes Eleonora of Austria

his Sifter, which at first raised some Jealousies and Discontent amongst the Nobility, who were afraid he made this Match with a View to enlarge his Power at the Expence of the public Liberty; but the Eafiness of his Temper, and his Readiness to consent to what ever they asked, very soon convinced them, that their Fears were groundless; and that they had nothing to dread from this Monarch on the Side of his Ambition. But in the Year 1672, the Turks under the Pretence of having taken the Coffacks under their Protection, invaded Poland, and very foon made themselves Masters of Kaminieck, the Capital of Podolia, a Place till then esteemed impregnable; and so much fuperior their Forces appeared to any that he could raife against them, that the King resolved to make the best Peace he could, which however proved a very indifferent one; for by it he covenanted to pay the Turks a great Sum of Money for sparing that City and its Inhabitants, and stipulated besides, that he would yield the Turks a constant Tribute of 22,000 Gold Ducats per Annum. As advantagious as this must appear, the Turks nevertheless were not long before they renewed their Hostilities, which obliged the Crown-General Sobieski to venture a Battle under great Disadvantages, in which however he gained a compleat as well as unexpected Victory. But the King did not live to receive the Pleasure of this News, dying suddenly on the fixteenth of November 1673, not without strong Suspicions of Poison. He was thirty-two Years of Age, a Man of much Mildness, Moderation, and Piety; but one who was far enough from having the great Qualities requifite to fill the Throne with Dignity.

The next Diet of Election was attended as usual with great Confusion; the Candidates were the Czar of Muscovy's youngest Son, the Prince of Transilvania, the Elector of Brandenburgh's eldest Son; the Duke of Lorrain and the Prince of Conde were also named, with some others. At last there were three Factions formed; the first of the Lithuanians, who were for the Duke of Lorrain; the second the Polish Nobility, who were most of them for the Duke of Neuburgh's Son; and the Army, who pretended to be for the French Prince, who tho' not named, was understood (as I have said) to be the Prince of Condé. By Degrees all the Factions were reduced to two, one for the Duke of Lorrain, and the other for the French Prince. In the End however, this Election, like the former, was decided suddenly, by a Speech. The Palatine of Russia rose up and said, "That the

Lithur

and that as it was won by the Crown-General Sobiefki, fo he only deferved to be King, by whose Courage and Conduct they were 'ftill a People." This did the Bufiness ef-

fectually; for though the Lithuanians protested against it that Day, yet they recanted the next, and fo the Election be-

came unanimous.

John Sobieski being thus raised to the Crown, was defirous of carrying on the War against the Turks, in which he was very indifferently feconded by the Nobility, who tho' they before promifed an Army of 60,000 Men, yet made a Difficulty of furnishing him with 40,000 after he was elected. The King, notwithstanding this, carried on the War, and in the Year 1675 he obtained the greatest Victory the Poles ever had to boast of; for in the Neighbourhood of the City of Leopol, with 5000 Men in an open Plain he defeated 60,000 Turks and Tartars, who fled in one Night as many Leagues as they had marched in three Days; and afterwards with an Army of 15000 Men he drove above an 100,000 Turks and Tartars out of Podelia. When he had thus fecured the Peace of the Kingdom, he returned to Crawhere on the second of February, 1676, he was crown'd with great Magnificence. He made a very honourable Peace with the Turks not long after, which lasted till the Year 1682. In that Year they invaded Germany and besieged Vienna, to the Relief of which the King of Poland, marched with 20,000 Men; and having joined the Electors of Bavaria and Saxony and the Duke of Lorrain, who had about the fame Number, he on the 12th of September attacked the Grand Vizir, who had an Army of near 200,000, entirely defeated them, forcing them to raife the Siege, and fly with the utmost Precipitation. The King made his Entry into Vienna through the Breach with the great Standard of the Turk, taken by his Troops, carried before him. He afterwards continued the War for fome time longer, though he shought himfelf but indifferently treated by the Emperor. On his return into Poland, he met with much Uneafiness and Discontent; the Nobility apprehending that he intended to make the Crown Hereditary in his Family, and that it was with this View he hoarded up so much Money; for it was computed that in the Space of twenty Years, he saved near two Millions Sterling. His Cares and Fatizues brought on a Complication of Dittempers, which carried him off the seventeenth of June 1696, in the sixty-sixth Year of his Age and twenty-second of his Reign. At the Time of his Decease, he was the Oldest, the Richest, and for personal Cou-

rage the most renowned Monarch in Europe.

After the King's Death, Cardinal Radzioufki, Archbishop of Gnefna, and Primate of the Kingdom, took the Adminiftration of the Government, as is usual, upon him, and notified the King's Death to Foreign Princes, and to all the Governors of the Provinces, and advised with the Senators that were then at Warfaw, of the proper Method and the Time to chuse a new King. They fixed upon the twenty-ninth of August 1606, for the Convocation of the grand Diet; but there appearing feveral Competitors, which made powerful Factions, it was thought necessary to take more Time to appeale the Diffentions of the Nobility; wherefore the Overture of the Diet was deferred to the fifteenth of May 1697. They chose the Sieur Belinski for their Speaker, whom they call Marshal. The chief Competitors were Prince James of Poland, and his Brother Prince Alexander, the Prince of Conti, Don Livio Odeschalchi, and Prince Lewis of Baden : but at last the Elector of Saxony unexpectedly came to the Frontiers of Poland with 8000 Men, and declared himself a Candidate, having a Twelvemonth before privately abjured his Religion to qualify himself for this Crown, which procured him the Interest of the Pope and Clergy, so that at length no confiderable Party appeared but for him, the Prince of Conti, and Prince James. The Cardinal Primate, with a great Number of the Palatins, supported the Interest of the Prince of Conti, the French having for several Years before given a great Character of his Merit and Valour. which made the King of France believe that he would undoubtedly carry that Crown, as it is probable he would have done, had he been in Person as near the Place of Election. as the Elector of Saxony was; for on the 26th of June, being the Day of Election, the Diet drew out into the Field, and he had that Day more Votes than either the Elector of Saxony or Prince James, which the Primate observing, went with h s Party and immediately proclaimed him King. But the two other Parties knowing that this could not be legally done, without the universal Consent of the Diet, protested against it; and Prince James perceiving his Party to be Kkk the the Weakest, and having always been in the Interest of the House of Austria, as being married to the Empress and Queen of Spain's Sifter, refigned all his Interest to the Elector of Saxony, who was likewife supported by the Emperor. These two Parties being thus united into one, were more numerous than that of the Prince of Conti; wherefore coming next Day into the Field, they got the Bishop of Cujavia, after the Primate had refused it, to proclaim Frederic Augustus of Saxony King of Poland, and fent Ambassadors to defire him to accept of the Crown; he accordingly entered the Kingdom with his Forces, and marched directly to Cracow, where he was crowned. The other Party endeavoured however to maintain their Election; but the Prince of Conti, who came from Dantzick, finding that he should have no more Friends in Poland than he purchased with his Money, and that they would continue fo no longer than they were supplied with it, determined to guit his Claim, as he did, and so left the peaceable Possession to King Augustus; who notwithstanding this was far enough from meeting with that Duty and Respect which he hoped for; so that new Disturbances were on the point of arising, if they had not been prevented by the Wisdom and Moderation of the King.

In the Beginning of the Year 1700, he had brought Things into fome tolerable Degree of Order, and might very probably have reigned peaceably enough, in as much as with all the great Qualities that could be wished for in a Frince. he had an Affability and Freedom in his Behaviour that was very engaging, and withal an almost boundless Generofity, which is a Quality much effeemed in all Countries, but more especially in Poland. I say notwithstanding what was past, he might have reigned as quietly as any of his Predeceffors, if he had not a little rashly embarked himself in a Quarrel with the King of Sweden in the Manner we have already related in some of our former Articles. This it was that gave an Opportunity to that Faction which had funported the Prince of Conti, to make Head again against the King, under a Pretence that he had violated the Laws by bringing in his Saxon Troops, and taking other Steps that were inconsistent with the Convention into which they had entered at the Time of his Election, and which according to their Constitution was to be the sole Rule of his Government. The King of Sweden encouraged this Party, and even went fo far as to hint to them that the only Way to make themselves easy, and gain his Friendship, was to declare the Thone vacant, and elect a new King, which

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when they faw that Monarch in a Condition to support them, they made no Scruple of doing, and accordingly they made Choice of Stanislaus Leczenski Palatine of Posnaria, a young Nobleman about the Age of the King of Sweden, who on the

fourth of October 1735, was crowned at Warfaw.

The next Year his Confederate Charles XII. of Sweden, entered Saxony, where he reduced King Augustus to such extreme Diftress, that he was glad to make Peace upon such Terms as were imposed on him by his Enemy, amongst which the hardest was this, that he should acknowledge and write a Letter to Stanislaus as King of Poland. In the following Year the last mentioned Prince was acknowledged by all the Powers in Europe; but the Year following, that is, in 1708, the King of Sweden being defeated in the famous Battle of Pultowa, it foon became evident that Stanistaus would lose his Kingdom almost as soon as he was raised to it. He had indeed a Body of Swedish Troops about him, with which for some time he endeavoured to maintain himself in possession; but at length found he was under a Necessity of quitting his Country, and following the Swedish Monarch into Turky. In 1709, King Augustus refumed the Sovereignty, and before the End of the Year the Swedes were obliged to retire absolutely out of the Kingdom. 1710, King Augustus held a Diet at Warsaw, where he was congratulated by the Senate and Nobility on his Return, and the necessary Measures taken to secure his peaceable Possession of the Throne; but the Measures which best secured him were those taken by himself, by keeping near his Person a confiderable Body of his faithful Saxons, and acceding to the Treaty concluded between the Czar and the Turks, which delivered the Poles from the Dangers of a Foreign War, tho' it was far enough from extinguishing their Domestic Factions.

In the Year 1713, there was a Coaspiracy formed against the King, but it was happily discovered and prevented; he thought fit, thereupon after making the necessary Dispositions for settling the Affairs of the Kingdom, to retire for some time into Saxony, whence he did not return till the Year following, when he found new Stirrings of Jealousy and Discontent in that Country, with which he was much offended; because he had pardoned two of his greatest Enemies, remitted a third part of the Taxes granted for the support of the Army, and had ordered thirteen Regiments of his German Troops to leave the Kingdom. Some of the discontented Nobility demanded a Diet on Horseback, which his Majesty K k k 2

refused to call, because he foresaw it could answer no End, but that of giving a Rebellion the Colour of a legal Proceeding. There were however some of the Nobility who actually began to mount, and shewed a Disposition of holding such an Assembly without the Royal License; but the King prevented this, by declaring absolutely that he would treat as Rebels such as should presume to meet together without such an Authority as the Constitution had rendered requisite; and to incline these People to hearken more readily to Reason, he recalled his German Troops; and having also made Peace with the Turks, he began to enjoy more Quiet than he had done from the Time he had first ascended the

Throne.

In the Year 1724 happened the unfortunate Affair of Thorn, which had like to have plunged the Republick into a War with most of the Protestant Powers in Europe. The City of Thorn is one of the most considerable in that part of Prusha which belongs to Poland, and is generally speaking inhabited by Protestants; there were however some Papists. and they had invited a few Jesuits thither to educate their Children. Some of their Scholars quarrelled with the Townsmen, which occasioned a Riot, and the pulling down a part of the H use in which the Jesuits lived; and the Magistrates not interpoling in time, some other Excesses were committed. Upon this a Tribunal was erected, composed of some Grandees and Senators of Poland, who after examining into the Affair, caused the chief Magistrate Mr. Reusner to be beheaded, and fome of the Townsmen to be hanged and their Bodies burnt; they likewise changed the Magistrates of the Town contrary to the Treaty of Oliva, which obliged the Crowns of Great-Britain, Sweden, and Prussia to interpose, as Guaranties of that Treaty, in favour of the Protestants; but the Affair being drawn into a Negociation, the bad Effects that were apprehended from those violent Proceedings were prevented, though the Protestants had not that Justice done them, which from the Nature of that Treaty, and the Power of those Courts which interposed on their Behalf, they had just Reason to expect.

There followed not long after another troublesome Affair, which because it may hereafter be revived and create new Disputes, it is necessary we should consider it more at large. The Dutchy of Courland, which was antiently a part of Livonia, was a Fief of the Crown of Poland, and had been held as such by the Family of Kether, from the Year 1561. William Duke of Courland married, in the Year 1710, the Princess

Ann of Russia, Daughter to the Czar John, and Neice to the Czar Peter, but died without leaving any Children of that Marriage: By his Demife the Dutchy descended to his Uncle Ferdinand; but the Dutchess Dowager took Possession of it by Force, and the Duke was obliged to live at Dantzick in very indifferent Circumstances. The King of Prussia laboured to procure this Country for the Margrave of Branderburg Swedt, who offered to pay the Debts with which it was charged; but the Grandees of Poland were strongly inclined to let it remain no longer a separate Dutchy, but rather to unite and incorporate it with the rest of Poland, to be governed in the same Manner as other Parts of the Kingdom. The Nobility of Courland, which are very numerous, were extremely alarmed at this, and therefore in the Name of Duke Ferdinand called a general Diet in order to elect a Successor, in which they chose Count Maurice of Saxony, the natural Son of King Augustus, at present so well known to the World by the Title of Marshal Saxe. But Duke Ferdinand having disavowed the Edict by which the Affembly was called, and the Poles highly refenting this Election, King Augustus was forc-

ed to declare against his Son.

This was in the Year 1728, and from that Time Poland grew more and more uneasy, from an Apprehension that the King intended to fecure the Crown to the Electoral Prince on his Decease, which they pretended was a high Violation of their Constitution; tho' their Election of this very King rather than Prince James Sobieski was the first Instance that ever happened in Poland of the King's Son being fet aside; their Crown, tho' always elective, having gone in a direct Line for eight hundred Years. King Augustus laboured all he could to fatisfy the Nobility, and to compose their Differences, but to no Purpofe. His Sickness hindered him from holding a Diet at Grodno for that Year; and the next the Factions were fo high that no Diet could be held; upon which the King retired much diffatisfied to Saxony, and the Lithuanians drew up a strong Protest against his leaving the Kingdom without the Confent of the Senate, and several other Griev-The King called another Diet in 1730, which broke up without coming to any Resolution. In 1732, he called a third extraordinary Diet at Warfaw with no better Effect. He fummoned however another extraordinary Diet in the Beginning of 1733, but was prevented from holding it, by Death. His Decease happened on the 27th of January that Year, and left the Affairs of this Country in great Confulion.

It is very well known to the Publick, that the Death of King Augustus of Poland gave Rife to the last War between the Houses of Austria and Bourbon; but how this came about. and what were the Measures taken by the different Parties from the Beginning of that Affair to the End, is not so generally understood, and yet there is nothing that deferves to be better known than the Mystery of this whole Transaction. The late Emperor, Charles the VIth, was very far from being fatisfied with the Conduct of King Augustus in the latter Part of his Reign, because he suspected, not without Reason, that he had fome Engagements with the Courts of France and Bavaria, not very favourable to the Pragmatick Sanction: for which Reason the Imperial Interest was employ'd in Poland rather to traverse than promote the King's Views with respect to the Succession. But when his Polish Majesty was dead, and the Imperial Court found his Son the prefent King very tractable with respect to it's favourable Point, the Pragmatick Sanction; this gave a new Turn to the Counfels of the Court of Vienna, and engaged them to favour that Measure which they had hitherto impeded. On the other Hand, France from first to last openly supported the Interest of King Stanislaus, whose History, from the Time of his being driven out of Poland, is, in few Words, this. His generous Friend the King of Sweden affigned him his paternal Inheritance the little Dutchy of Deux Ponts for his Subfiftance, which he held fo long as that Prince lived, but upon his Demise the next Heir took Possession, and King Stanislaus was forced to retire to Strafburgh, where he lived on the Bounty as well as under the Protection of his Most Christian Majesty, who in the Year 1725 married the Princess Mary his Daughter; which confequently interested France extreamly in his Favour. His great Alliances, his many Virtues, and his being freer from Vices than almost any Prince of his Time, had preferved him many Friends in Poland; fo that it was no difficult Matter for the Marquess De Monti, the French Ambassador in Poland at the Death of King Augustus, in Conjunction with the Primate, to form a great Faction in his Favour.

But the Electoral Prince of Saxony being supported by the Courts of Vienna and Petersburgh, a double Election enfued. King Stanislaus, who passed into that Country immediately after the Throne became vacant, went to Warsaw, where he was received and treated as King, but was very soon after driven out again by the Russian Army commanded by Count Munich, and obliged to retire to Dantzick, in which

which he sustained a long Siege, ran great Hazards, suffered many Hardships, and at last with infinite Difficulty made his Escape to Konigesbrg, where he was protected by the late King of Prussa. In the mean Time the Crowns of France and Spain broke with the Emperor, upon Pretence of this Dispute, and of his having supported King Augustus III. and carried on the War with great Vigor in Germany and Italy; till at last having carried their Point, and forced the Emperor to a Peace, all the Care that was taken of King Stanislaus was, that he should enjoy the Title of King of Poland and the Dutchy of Lorrain for Life, and on the other Hand France

and Spain acknowledged King Augustus.

It was very clear from their whole Managment of this Affair, that the Court of Versailles was never in earnest in the support of Stanislaus's Title to this Crown; but made use of it only as a Colour, first of engaging in a War against the House of Austria, and next for obtaining an immediate Possession of Lorrain under his Name, which otherwise they could never have gained. After this Peace was thus concluded there broke out a War between the late Emperor, affifted by the late Czarina, against the Turks, in which, notwithstanding the Share those two Powers had in raising him to the Throne, King Augustus took no part; and indeed the miserable Condition his Kingdom was in from a short but fevere Civil War, might very reasonably excuse it. He has ever fince continued in the peaceable Possession of his Dominions, and the Poles have had nothing to disturb them but Broils and Disputes among their great Families, from which they never were, nor indeed are ever like to be free; fince from a mistaken Notion of Liberty, they look upon the unbounded Power of their Nobility as the most valuable Part of their Constitution, and thereby suffer themselves to be cheated by the Sound of Freedom out of the Thing itfelf.

Frederick Augustus III, King of Poland, Elector of Saxony, was elected to the first of those Dignities September 23, 1733, in the forty-seventh Year of his Age. He had long before espoused his present Queen Maria-fosepha of the House of Austria, Daughter to the late Emperor Joseph, which attached the Court of Vienna so closely to his Interests, as to make great Concessions in the beforementioned Treaty in 1736, for the sake of procuring his Election to be acknowledged by those who had disputed it. Yet on the breaking out of the present War on the Score of the late Emperor's Succession, he was so far from making use of the Dispo-

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fition of the Poles to affift the Queen of Hungary, that he entered into the Views of the House of Bavaria, and, as Elector of Saxony, marched a Body of Troops into Behemia in Conjunction with the French and Pruffians as Auxiliaries of the Emperor Charles VII. But after the Treaty of Breslau, he went over again to the Austrian Interest, and by an Alliance concluded at Warfaw, undertook to fend a Body of Forces into Bohemia for the Service of the Queen of Hungary. He likewise en-deavoured to draw the Republick into an Augmentation of its Troops, to give Weight to the fame Caufe; but by an unforeseen Accident the Diet fell into great Confusion, and rose without coming to any Resolution. The King of Prussa (who has always had both good Intelligence and great Influence in Poland) not fatisfied with defeating his Views in that Country, attacked him in his Hereditary Dominions last Winter, made himself Master of Dresden, and forced him to a Peace on his own Terms, fince which his Conduct has been very different from what it was before. He proposes to hold a Diet this Year for regulating Affairs in his regal Dominions; and to make every thing there as eafy as is possible, we are told he has dropt his Design of augmenting the Crown Army. The Poles, fince his Accession, have given him (as they do all their Kings) Reasons enough to be difpleased, and yet they never had a Monarch of whose Ambition they had less Cause to be afraid, or who has left the Administration of Affairs more to the Senate and Grandees. who therefore profess towards him a great deal of Loyalty and Affection.

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